



CALIFORNIA ORIGINALS

A Quarterly Newsletter of the California State Archives
A Division of the Secretary of State's Office
www.sos.ca.gov/archives

Volume III, No. 3

Spring 2015

CALIFORNIA
STATE ARCHIVES
Celebrating 165 years, 1850 - 2015

A Message from Secretary Padilla



On January 5, I assumed office as California's 31st Secretary of State. After my 7-year-old son led the pledge of allegiance, and Governor Brown administered the oath, I set forth my goals to increase voter participation, make it easier to start a business in California, and protect voting rights.

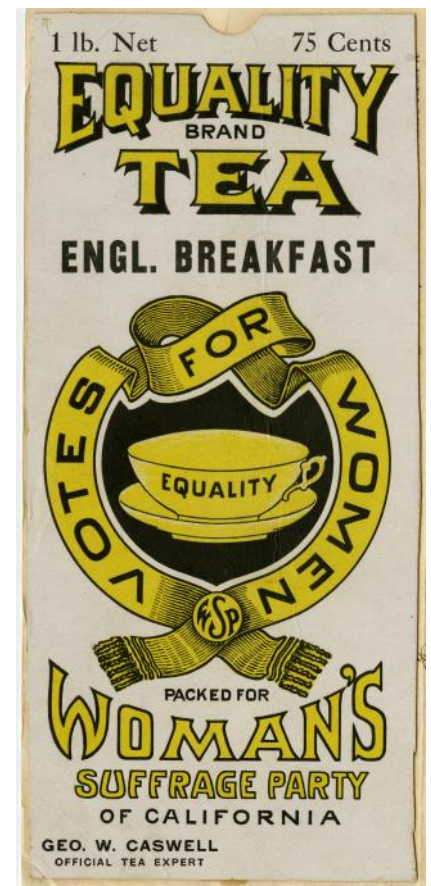
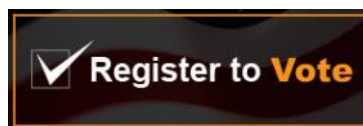
It was a day to look forward to new challenges and opportunities, and also to look back, because that day was exactly 165 years since California's very first law was signed and enacted. That 1850 law directed the Secretary of State to collect the records of the government, safely keep and preserve them, and make them available to "the people of the State." As the new custodian of the State Archives, that is a responsibility I embrace.

In 1850, records likely made their way to the State Archives via Wells Fargo stagecoach. Today, we face new challenges to preserve and make accessible our modern-day records that are "born digital" or stored on obsolete media. But our mission is the same – to make more Californians aware of and enjoy this fascinating collection.

The State Archives is not just a record of California history but a monument to the enduring spirit of our citizens. The Spanish and Mexican land grant records; the first, and only, state census taken in 1852 documenting the influx of gold seekers from around the nation and the world; the colorful trademarks of turn-of-the-century businesses; and records of construction of the State's vast highway network – all of these treasures, and more, tell the California story. I want to better integrate the collection into exhibits in the California Museum and increase awareness of our precious documents and artifacts through social media.

Most importantly, I want the State Archives and lessons from the past to be an inspiration for addressing current challenges. The Archives records on voting and elections from years past may provide insight for how to increase civic engagement and voter participation today. Indeed, our history of expanding the franchise to all races, women, and 18-year-olds should inspire all eligible Californians to exercise that precious right to vote.

Alex Padilla
Secretary of State



Inside this issue

From the State Archivist	2
Records in the Spotlight	2
Football, Flu, & a Fair	3
Staff Favorites	4-5
Program Notes	5
Speaker Series	6
Upcoming Events	6
Contact Info	6

"Preserving and Promoting the History of California"



From the State Archivist

The theme of this issue of *California Originals* is “Sports.” We highlight the surprising number of records that document a wide variety of sporting events, the regulation of sports, and other sports-related materials in the Archives. Although not as well documented as some other famous events, the State Archives held its first Archives Olympics in February 2014 (to coincide with the XXII Olympic Games held in Sochi, Russia). Designed as a team-building activity, staff members split into three teams (Team Golden Poppies, Team Original Order, and Team Confidential Destruction) and elected team captains. Archives managers acted as coaches and official scorekeepers. Teams held strategy and practice sessions before each event. Three main events were held in the Olympic Arena (aka the Research Room and 4th Floor Stacks): two relays (building boxes and re-filing archival records) and assembling jigsaw puzzles created from photocopies of some of our most well-known documents. Scorekeepers awarded points based on first, second, and third place finishes for each event. Individual staff members also earned points for their teams based on work performed during the three weeks of the competition. To encourage work on records accessioning and processing, officials awarded bonus points for time spent on those activities. After the Archives Olympic events were completed, the officials tallied the total points earned by each team and presented awards, artfully created from canning jar lids suspended from red, blue, and white ribbons, corresponding to gold, silver, and bronze medals.



Opening Ceremony for the 2014 Archives Olympics



Archives staff competing in the Olympic Box Building Event

Nancy Zimmerman Lenoil

Records in the Spotlight

VIII Olympic Winter Games, Squaw Valley, California 1960

In 1955, the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) submitted a bid to host the 1960 Winter Olympics in Squaw Valley, California. This northern California resort area was highly praised for its geography, slopes, and weather conditions. It was lauded by U.S. officials as the perfect location to host the international sporting event.

The Squaw Valley Winter Olympic bid had significant support from California Governor Goodwin Knight, the United States Congress, and President Eisenhower. It had strong financial backing from the California State Legislature, with a pledge of at least one million dollars for the construction of event arenas and sites.

In June of 1955, the International Olympic Committee selected Squaw Valley as the host city for the 1960 Winter Olympics. Beating out European cities, Squaw Valley hosted the first Winter Olympic Games on the West Coast and the Pacific Rim.

From 1955 to 1960, the USOC and California Olympic Committee worked with California state agencies and private companies to construct and widen highways; to establish public transportation; and to plan and then build the Olympic Village, ice rinks, arenas, and ski event courses.

The 1960 Winter Olympic Games were held February 18–28 and, for the first time, included the men’s biathlon and women’s speed skating. It was the only Winter Olympic Games not to include the bobsled event, largely due to the high costs associated with constructing the course.

The California State Archives has many records relating to the planning that went into the 1960 Winter Olympics. The records relate to the administration of the California Olympic Committee and include reports, correspondence, maps, and blueprints of the Olympic Village and event venues.

By Tamara Martin, Managing Archivist



Football, Flu, and a Fair

The Story of the Whittier State School Football Team of 1917-18

For over a century, teams in the Southern Section of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) have battled for gridiron supremacy. One of the earliest powerhouses in that section was the Whittier State School.

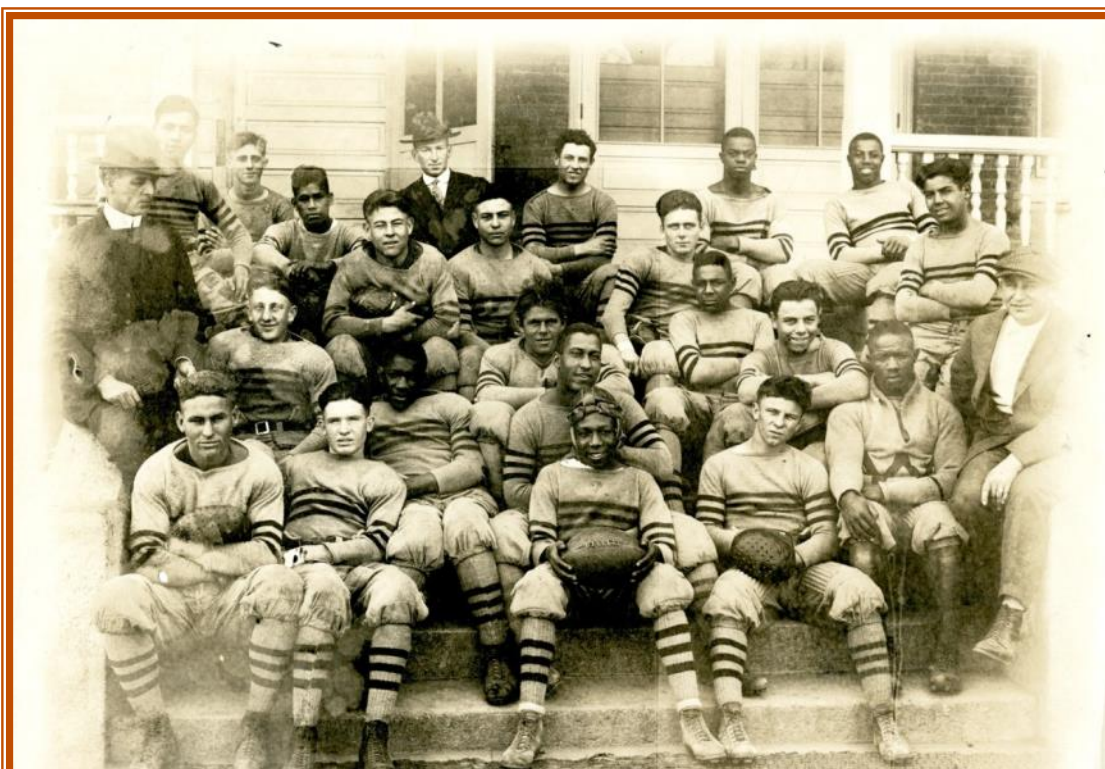
During a two-year stretch, the Whittier State School team went 22-1-1, including an undefeated run to the CIF Lightweight title in 1917, and had a 12-1-1 run in 1918 before a virulent strain of influenza shut down the football season in October of 1918. This, however, did not stop Whittier superstar Willie Maxwell. He was responsible for 202 total points for the 1918 season and was named to the All-Southern California Interscholastic team as a right half back.

In early November 1918, Whittier issued a challenge to any team that would face them at the upcoming California Liberty Fair. The Liberty Fair was a celebration to be held in Los Angeles to celebrate the end of World War I. A series of festivities were to be held including horseracing and livestock exhibitions.

The University of Southern California Trojans accepted the challenge. From the *Los Angeles Times*' account, Willie Maxwell was the star. He took the game's first punt 90 yards for a score. USC had an opportunity at the end of the game to win it, but missed a drop kick as the whistle sounded. The game ended in a 13-13 tie.

Although there are no official indicators that there was a Lightweight champion declared in 1918, it was the height of Whittier State School Football dominance.

by Chris Garmire, Archivist



*Members of the 1918 Whittier State School Football Team
(Records of the Dept. of Youth Authority. Fred C. Nelles School for Boys.
Miscellaneous Records - Photographs. ID F3738:271-2)*



Staff Favorites

The records at the California State Archives cover many aspects of life in the Golden State, including sports and games. Examples of these records include trademarks, articles of incorporation, boxer applications, club tax journals, and event investigation reports.

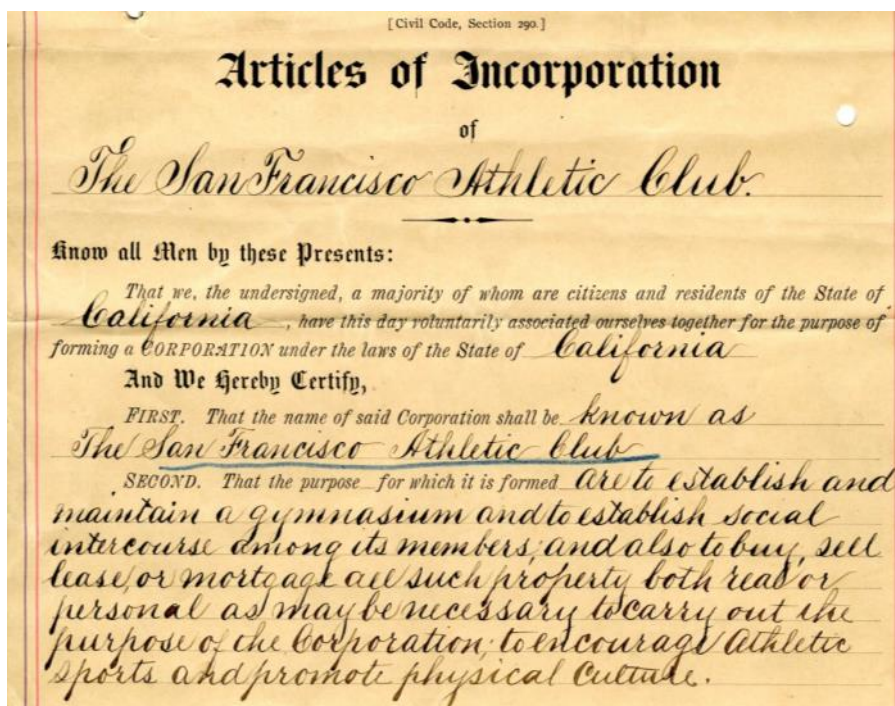
Among the early trademarks are a series of baseball team photographs used on cigar boxes. Wertheimer & Co. filed a trademark for their cigars in 1887. The trademark is a photograph of San Francisco's Haverly Baseball Club, California League champions in 1886. From southern California, Barnett & Co. enlisted the Los Angeles Club to help sell their cigars. The use of these images on the cigar boxes coincided with the inclusion of baseball cards in cigarette packs.



Above: TM1409; Right: TM1518
(Records of the Secretary of State's Office. Trademarks)

Many sports clubs filed articles of incorporation with the Secretary of State's Office. The San Francisco Athletic Club was formed in 1898 to establish and maintain a gymnasium to "encourage athletic sports and promote physical culture." By 1899, athletics at the Club included boxing exhibitions, newly legalized (boxing had been illegal since the late 1850s) when the Governor signed legislation that allowed boxing or sparring matches, as long as a "domestic incorporated athletic club" held the event and a physician attended each match (Chapter 121, *Statutes of 1899*).

In 1914, through an initiative statute, the voters of California made professional combative sports illegal once again. (cont'd on page 5)



San Francisco Athletic Club
(Records of the Secretary of State's Office. Articles of Incorporation)



Staff Favorites (cont'd)

The argument in favor of prohibiting professional boxing read, in part, "This act is designed to prevent commercialized prize fighting in California, with its attendant evils, without interfering with bona fide amateur boxing, or amateur boxing exhibitions." Proponent Nathan Newby concluded his argument in favor by stating, "California cannot afford, when in 1915 it shall be entertaining the world at its expositions, to advertise that it is out of harmony with the enlightened sentiment of the civilized world, that unmistakably condemns prize fighting and its attendant evils." State Senator D.P. Regan, who wrote the argument against passing the initiative, listed reasons the law was not necessary. Those reasons included the belief that "boxing is *not* brutal . . . is conducive to maintain manliness and good health . . . the character of the men who have made good in the sport is above reproach . . ." and "boxing is not a state nor a national sport. It has an international vogue."

A scant ten years later, the people voted on a new initiative measure that once again made prize fighting (i.e., professional boxing) legal, but under the regulatory eye of a State Athletic Commission. This Commission is still active, ninety years after its creation. For more information about the State Athletic Commission records at the State Archives, visit [Minerva](#), our online descriptive catalog, or the [Online Archive of California](#).

By Linda Johnson, Archivist

Application #1677 for Mateo Benoya
(State Athletic Commission Records.
Boxing License & Renewal Applications)

Program Notes

Oral History Program

This year marks the thirtieth anniversary of the passage of the law establishing the State Government Oral History Program at the State Archives (Chapter 965, *Statutes of 1985*). Advancements in sound recording technology during the twentieth century allowed historians to start preserving individuals' memories for future generations. Trained oral historians conduct the interviews, asking questions based on thorough research and keeping the interviewee on track. These recorded memories often supplement the historical record and allow professional historians and others to study the individuals' own words and thereby gain a better understanding of the past.

During the last thirty years, the State Archives has partnered with oral history programs at different universities across California to interview hundreds of people who have played major roles in state government or have influenced public policy. These individuals include State Senators and Assembly members, heads of State agencies, political organizers and activists, campaign managers and others. The State Archives permanently houses transcribed copies of the interviews and makes the transcriptions available to researchers. These oral history transcriptions contain a wealth of information about such varied topics as health care, water management, environmental protection, education, criminal justice, agriculture, and a host of other issues. Consequently, the oral history collection at the State Archives is an important resource not only for those researchers interested in the lives of the individual interviewees, but also to those researchers studying many of the most important topics in California history. The most recently completed oral history is with R. William Hauck, former Chief of Staff for Assembly Speakers Bob Moretti and Willie Brown, Jr., and Deputy Chief of Staff for Governor Pete Wilson. Hauck also served on the California State University Board of Trustees. For a complete listing of the interviews, including some transcriptions, visit the Archives' [Oral History Program](#) webpage.

By Sebastian Nelson, Archivist & Oral History Program Lead



Speaker Series

The Friends of the California Archives will present the fourth program in a speaker series on Thursday, May 21, beginning at 5:15 p.m. Monica Lundy will present “Stories Untold: Finding Artistic Inspiration Through Historical Research.”

Guided by an interest in deepening one’s understanding of place, Monica Lundy incorporates historical research into her studio practice. Her curiosity about lesser-known histories is paired with her curiosity about unconventional painting practices. Lundy’s mixed-media paintings traverse painting and installation, abstraction and figuration. The work ruminates on the dispossessed, collective memory, and the corrosive nature of time.

Lundy holds a MFA from Mills College in painting and a BFA from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in sculpture. She has been awarded the Jay DeFeo Prize, San Francisco Arts Commission Grant and Montalvo Art Center’s Irvine Fellowship. She has done site specific work on Alcatraz Island, Fort Point, and other locations around the San Francisco Bay Area. Her work has been featured in *ARTNews*, the *Huffington Post*, *Visual Art Source*, and the *San Francisco Chronicle*, and other publications. Lundy is represented by Toomey Tourell Fine Art in San Francisco. She currently lives and works in Oakland, California.

For more information about the Speaker Series, visit www.sos.ca.gov/archives/events

Upcoming Events

February 24 - April 17	Due to an infrastructure improvement project, some records may be intermittently unavailable	www.sos.ca.gov/archives
March 19	Speaker Series: “Arabian Dreams in the American Desert,” with Sarah Seekatz	www.sos.ca.gov/archives/events
April 24, May 29, June 26	Monthly Public Tours of the California State Archives	www.sos.ca.gov/archives/tours
May 8-9	National History Day - California at William Jessup University, Rocklin	www.nhdca.org
May 21	Speaker Series: “Stories Untold: Finding Artistic Inspiration Through Historical Research,” with Monica Lundy	www.sos.ca.gov/archives/events

California State Archives
1020 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Visit us on the web at www.sos.ca.gov/archives

For general assistance, call (916) 653-7715

For reference assistance, call (916) 653-2246
or email ArchivesWeb@sos.ca.gov

For event information, call (916) 653-7715
or email ArchivesEvents@sos.ca.gov

For the California Museum visit
www.californiamuseum.org



Search our online catalog at
www.sos.ca.gov/archives/minerva



Search state agency
records retention schedules at
www.sos.ca.gov/archives/athena



Visit the Secretary of State’s other divisions for election information, campaign finance filings, business records, and more.